2nd March 1926]

Government Pleaders and Public Prosecutors.

1496 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) in which of the districts Government after enquiry have found that the combination of the functions of Government Pleader and Public Prosecutor in one man is bad in the interests of expeditious and efficient discharge of both the functions;

(*b*) whether duly qualified men though not senior pleaders cannot be found for either of the posts in such districts;

(*c*) whether Government have ever considered the scheme of Deputy or Assistant (stipendiary or honorary) Government Pleaders or Public Prosecutors to relieve heavily worked Government Pleaders and Public Prosecutors, and if so, what their decision is;

(*d*) how the cases in which the Government are concerned are conducted in District Munsif's and Sub-Judge's Courts;

(*e*) whether District Government Pleaders are engaged for that purpose and whether their services are generally available therefor; and

(*f*) whether Government have ever considered the scheme of appointing Honorary Government Pleaders for such courts?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) On the representation of the District Magistrate and the District Judge the appointments of Government Pleader and Public Prosecutor have been separated in the districts of Chingleput, Salem and Trichinopoly.

(*c*) & (*f*) In districts where assistant sessions courts or additional sessions courts are established additional Public Prosecutors are appointed to give relief to Government Pleaders and Public Prosecutors.

(*d*) & (*e*) A Government Pleader is usually appointed for each sessions division and he has ordinarily to appear for Government in all civil cases in which they are interested. The Collector has power, whenever necessary, to engage private pleaders to conduct cases on behalf of Government and to sanction fees subject to certain prescribed limits.

Irrigation.

Digging of an irrigation channel from the Peri eri of Eraiyur village.

1497 *Q.*—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the ryots of Melapunjai village, in Tiruvannamalai taluk, North Arcot district, have petitioned the Collector of North Arcot in 1924 to complete the digging of an irrigation channel, sanctioned, to their tank, from the Peri eri of Eraiyur village;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that they were asked by the Superintending Engineer, after preparing the plans and estimates for the same, to dig a trial channel of about 100 feet, at their own cost;